Second Sunday of Advent

INTRODUCTION

INTROIT HYMN— **575** *Celebration Hymnal*

The ADVENT CANDLE *is lit, and the priest says*

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true: to you be praise and glory for ever. Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets, but in our days you speak through your Son, whom you have appointed the heir of all things. Grant us, your people, to walk in his light, that we may be found ready and watching when he comes again in glory and judgement; for you are our light and our salvation.

All respond: **Blessed be God for ever.**

In the name of the Father, and of ✠ the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All respond: **Amen.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The PRAYERS OF PENITENCE *are introduced.*

Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you to himself, and cleanse you ✠ from all your sins, that you may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

KYRIE ELEÏSON *is sung.*

Kyrie, eleïson. (×3) *(Lord, have mercy.)*
Christe, eleïson. (×3) *(Christ, have mercy.)*
Kyrie, eleïson. (×3) *(Lord, have mercy.)*

All remain standing for the COLLECT.

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Readings for Year B

FIRST READING *Isa 40.1–11*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the Lord blows on it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will tend his flock

like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *from Ps 85*

℟. Let us see, O Lord, your mercy, and give us your saving help. *(All repeat)*

I will hear what the Lord God is saying,
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people.
His salvation is near for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land. ℟.

Mercy and truth have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
Truth shall spring up from the earth
and righteousness look down from heaven. ℟.

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity
and our land shall yield its increase.
Righteousness shall go before him
and peace shall follow in his steps. ℟.

SECOND READING *2 Pet 3.8–15*

A reading from the second letter of Peter.

Do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfil his promise as some count slowness, but is patient towards you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace. And count the patience of our Lord as salvation.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN— **133**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Lk 3.4,6*

Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight:
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING *Mk 1.1–8*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, the voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt round his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

A SERMON *may follow.*

All ***stand*** *to recite the* NICENE CREED.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all

that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
(all bow) **was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**
(all rise) **For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

The INTERCESSIONS *are introduced, and all* ***kneel****. One of these responses may be used:*
℣. Lord, hear us. ℟. **Lord, graciously hear us.**
or ℣. Lord, in your mercy, ℟. **Hear our prayer.**

At the Commemoration of the Departed:
℣. Rest eternal ✠ grant unto them, O Lord;
℟. **And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

The Intercessions may end: Merciful Father,
Accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

All ***stand*** *as the priest introduces the* PEACE.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The people unite their prayers with the priest, who says the PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS.
Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.
Lord, in your goodness be pleased with our prayers and offerings and, since we can merit nothing of ourselves, come to our aid with your mercy; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The PREFACE *follows.*

All respond with the SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS.
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he ✠ who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

All ***kneel****. After the Consecration, all acclaim:*
Christ is the bread of life:
When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory *(sung twice)***.**

The Eucharistic Prayer continues, and ends:
… for ever and ever. **Amen.**

RITE OF COMMUNION

The priest introduces the LORD'S PRAYER.
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The priest breaks the Host; AGNUS DEI *is sung.*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace.

The priest gives the COMMUNION INVITATION.

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.
Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Holy Communion is distributed.

COMMUNION HYMN— **10**

The priest says the POST-COMMUNION *prayer.*

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONCLUSION

The priest gives the BLESSING *and* DISMISSAL.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

… The blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

1. **Christ is surely coming,**
bringing his reward,
Omega and Alpha,
First and Last and Lord,
Root and stem of David,
Brilliant Morning Star;
Meet your Judge and Saviour,
nations near and far!
Meet your Judge and Saviour,
nations near and far!

2. **See the holy city!**
There they enter in,
Men by Christ made holy,
washed from every sin,
Thirsty ones, desiring
all he loves to give;
Come for living water:
freely drink, and live!
Come for living water:
freely drink, and live!

3. **Grace be with God's people;**
Praise his holy name:
Father, Son and Spirit,
evermore the same;
Hear the certain promise
from the eternal home:
'Surely I come quickly.'
Come, Lord Jesus, come!
'Surely I come quickly.'
Come, Lord Jesus, come!

The service may be followed by the ANGELUS.

℣. The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary:
℟. **And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**
Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners, now,
and at the hour of our death. Amen.

℣. Behold the handmaid of the Lord:
℟. **Be it unto me according to thy word.**
Hail Mary …

℣. And the Word was made flesh:
℟. **And dwelt among us.**
Hail Mary …

℣. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God:
℟. **That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Let us pray. Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts; that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ, your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by his Passion and Cross ✠ be brought to the glory of his Resurrection; through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

6.12.26